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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/610,479

06/30/2003

Ken France

081276-9121-00

9343

34044

7590

06/22/2004

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EXAMINER

LARKIN, DANIEL SEAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2856

DATE MAILED: 06/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/610,479

Applicant(s)

FRANCE, KEN

Examiner

Daniel S. Larkin

Art Unit

2856

A

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference character(s) mentioned in the description:

Reference numeral -- 14 -- does not appear within Figure 12 as suggested by the disclosure on page 19, line 18.

Reference numeral -- 142 -- does not appear within Figure 12 as suggested by the disclosure on page 19, line 21.

Reference numeral -- 416c' -- does not appear within Figure 13 as suggested by the disclosure on page 26, line 2.

Reference numeral -- 416' -- does not appear within the drawing figures as suggested by the disclosure on page 26, line 15.

Reference numeral -- 412 -- does not appear within Figure 16 as suggested by the disclosure on page 27, line 16.

2. Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct

any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Page 14, line 24: The abbreviation "FIG." should be corrected to read -- Fig. --.

Page 1, line 8: A -- period -- should be inserted after the term "part". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 1-22 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Re claim 1, claim line 7: The conjunction "and" should be corrected to read -- or --, since use of the term "either" suggests a "first configuration" or a "second configuration" rather than a first and second configuration.

Re claim 13, claim line 5: A -- colon -- should be inserted after the term "including".

Re claim 13, claim line 9: The conjunction "and" should be corrected to read -- or --.

Re claim 20, claim line 6: The conjunction "and" should be corrected to read -- or --.

Re claim 20, claim line 7: The "semicolon" after the term "comprising" should be corrected with a -- colon --. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Prior art was not relied upon to reject claims 1-22 because the prior art fails to teach and/or make obvious a contact pin assembly or a method of assembling an exhaust gas sensor having a contact pin assembly, comprising a second portion connected to a first portion in either a first configuration or a second configuration, wherein the contact pin assembly has a second overall length which is less than the length of the pin assembly in the first configuration in combination with all of the remaining limitations of the base claims.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


The prior art to US 2004/0074284 (Day et al.) discloses a miniaturized exhaust gas sensor whereby a contact pin assembly is provided with a first portion configured to be electrically connected to a sensor element when the contact pin assembly is installed in the exhaust gas sensor; and a second portion configured to be connected to the first portion. The reference discusses the creation of two sensors having differing lengths; however, this is achieved by shortening various components of the exhaust gas sensor.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel S. Larkin whose telephone number is 571-272-2198. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hezron Williams can be reached on 571-272-2208. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Daniel Larkin
AU 2856
18 June 2004



DANIEL S. LARKIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER